



January 23, 2006

## California Highway Safety Stakeholders

### Greetings:

On behalf of the California Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) Stakeholders committee, I am pleased to extend an invitation to you to the Statewide Highway Safety Summits. The goals of the summits are to 1) increase awareness of the SHSP, 2) share information regarding California safety statistics, and most importantly, 3) encourage, assist and receive input from all highway safety attendees to help develop and write the SHSP. This will help to ensure ownership by the large group of stakeholders in California. By working together to promote and improve traffic safety in California we can effectively impact the ultimate goal of reducing fatalities and injuries on all public roads in California.

I have attached a brief summary of the SHSP. Additionally, for more detail, I encourage you to access our website at <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/traffops/survey/SHSP/> to review a draft agenda, the draft SHSP to be posted no later than February 6, 2006, and to register for one of the two statewide traffic safety summits. Those who cannot attend will be able to post SHSP comments on the website.

The SHSP summits will be held at two locations for your travel convenience. The first will take place in Northern California on March 7, 2006, at the Sacramento Hilton, located at 2200 Harvard Street, Sacramento, CA 95815. The second will take place in Southern California on March 9, 2006, at the DoubleTree Hotel Ontario, located at 222 North Vineyard Avenue, Ontario, CA 91764. Summit attendance will be limited; therefore, registration will be on a first-come first-serve basis. The SHSP Stakeholders committee will be offering lodging scholarships to a limited number of attendees per location. To receive a lodging scholarship, please complete the scholarship section of the on-line registration. Attendees will be notified by February 1, 2006, if their scholarship application has been accepted. Unfortunately, once these rooms have been taken, it will be the attendees' responsibility to seek and pay for hotel accommodations.

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A registration fee of \$30 will be charged to you for either of the Statewide Highway Safety Summits. Registration information is available on the summit website, or you can call Sacramento State University for additional information at (916) 278-4433, or via the web at [www.cce.csus.edu/conferences](http://www.cce.csus.edu/conferences). A detailed conference package will be mailed to you upon registration confirmation.

I look forward to your attendance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Randell H. Wasch".

*For*  
WILL KEMPTON  
Director

Attachment



## California Strategic Highway Safety Plan

### **Background**

On August 10, 2005, the President of the United States signed into law the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act (SAFETEA-LU): A Legacy for Users. This legislation established a new core Highway Safety Improvement Program to further reduce highway fatalities and injuries. As required under SAFETEA-LU, the California Department of Transportation will lead the effort to develop the statewide Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP).

### **Purpose**

The purpose of developing an SHSP for California is to identify our key safety needs and guide investment decisions to achieve significant reductions in fatalities and injuries on all public roads in California. The SHSP provides a framework for all highway safety agencies in California to work together to align and leverage our collective resources.

A SHSP provides a comprehensive framework for data-driven decision-making, utilizing the four E's – engineering, education, enforcement, and emergency medical services. The SHSP establishes statewide goals, objectives, and key emphasis areas in consultation with federal, State, local, and private sector safety stakeholders. In addition, the SHSP identifies high-risk rural roads, and is required to list the top 5 percent of locations with the greatest safety needs.

### **Benefits of an SHSP**

The collaborative process of developing and implementing a State SHSP draws on the strengths and resources of all safety stakeholders. The benefits of a State SHSP include:

- Establishing common statewide goals and priorities.
- Strengthening existing partnerships.
- Building new safety coalitions.
- Sharing data, knowledge, and resources.



- Avoiding redundant activities and leveraging existing resources such as funds, people, and leadership attention, toward common objectives.
- Communicating the impact of investing additional resources for highway safety countermeasures.
- Incorporating engineering, education, enforcement, and emergency medical services strategies and countermeasures to have a greater impact on reducing highway fatalities and serious injuries on all public roads.